Mahila Kosh Scheme. Publicity literature on the Kosh has been sent to District Magistates of all the districts in the country for giving wide publicity to the scheme. For effective transmission of its message of different parts of the country, Rashtriya Mahila Kosn has undertaken the task of publishing its lending guidelines in 11 different regonal languages.

Articles regarding Rashtriya Mahila Kosh's activities have appeared in leading journals like 'Kurukshetra', Yojana, 'Samaj Kalyan' and 'Social Welfae' having wide circulation amongst NGOs. Leading newspapers have also given publicity to the Rashtriya Mahila Scheme.

The Kosh has introduced the following schemes to assist the smaller NGOs and extend its out reach to them:—

I. Umbrella organisation Scheme:

II. Pilot Scheme for financing NGOs which are not having the requisite experience of 3 years;

III. Scheme for providing financial support to NGOs for development of Self Help Groups.

Targets of Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

4938. SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh has been able to achieve its targets with regard to sanctions, disbursements and recoveries etc.; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SMT. BASAVARAJESWARI): (a) and (b) The Rashtriya Mahila Kosh has sanctioned credit limits to 53 NGOs to cover 62,322 women in the first two years i.e. 1993-94 and 1994-95 against a target covering 2 lakh women beneficiaries during the first six years of its operations.

In terms of financial performance, the Kosh has, during 1993-94 and 1994-95, sanctioned Rs. 9.59 crores and disbursed Rs. 5.70 crores. In terms of recovery, as against total dues of Rs. 1.60 crores, a sum of Rs. 1.54 crores has been recovered. The percentage of recovery comes to around 96 per cent.

Smuggling of Antiques

4939. SHRI GUNDAPPA: KORWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether priceless sandstone antiques dating back to 9th and 10th century had been seized from a smuggler recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the value of antiques; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent such incidents in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KM. SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Five stone sculptures were seized by Delhi Police on 14-12-94 and all the five sculptures have been declared as antiquities by Director General, Archaeological Survey of India. These sculptures have to be evaluated by a Committee of Experts to be convened by Police authorities.

(c) Steps have been taken to check the theft and smuggling of antiqui-

ties (i) by careful vigilance; (ii) by intensifying the checking at customs points (iii) as well as by strict enforcement of the Antiquities and Art Treasues Act, 1972.

Central assistance for educational Schemes in Karnataka

4940. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any request from the Government of Karnataka for assistance in the implementation of several on-going and planned schemes in the sphere of education;

(b) whether the Central Government would support to the State's Akshaya and Vidya Vikas Schemes to provide incentives to the elementary level students by posing the schemes for World Bank/UNICEF assistance; and

(c) whther it is a fact that Karnataka has done well with the 'Operation Black Board' scheme, which is half-way, requiring financial support from the Central Government for attainment of targets; and if so, whether the Central Government would come out with support for this programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KM. SELJA): (a) and (b) No proposal from Karnataka for assistance to Akshaya and Vidya Vikas Schemes is pending in the Ministry.

(c) Under Operation Black Board (OB), all the primary schools originally targetted to be covered have been sanctioned teaching learning equipment and additional teachers. In Karnataka, the programme has been extended to cover 9610 upper primary schools and 2769 third teachers' posts were sanctioned.

Grants to Indo Shastri Canadian Institute

4941. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grants/aids given by Government to Indo Shastri Canadian Institute during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) names of the officials who represent Government in its decision making both financial administrative and academic bodies during this period;

(c) the amount grants given by the Canadian Government to the Institute during this period;

(d) the number of times various decision making bodies met and deliberated on the Institute and also reviewed its functioning;

(e) the details of each meeting, the official/representative participated, agenda of the meeting and also the decision taken thereon; and

(f) whether any shortcoming was found and the same was placed before any of these meeting; if so details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KM. SELJA). (a) Under Agenda VI to Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India and the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI), it was provided that a sum of Rs. 3 crores would be paid to the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute during the period of 5 years from April 1, 1989 to March 31, 1994. The amount of grant sanctioned during 1992-93 and 1993-94 was Rs. 65 lakhs and Rs. 72 lakhs respectively. Pending the renewal of the Agreement, the Institute was sanctioned a grant of Rs. 76 lakhs during 1994-95.